

Message Text

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ORIGIN ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-09 IO-13 ISO-00 ERDA-07 AF-10
ARA-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03
NASA-02 NEA-10 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OIC-02 SP-02 PA-02
PRS-01 OES-06 SS-15 USIA-15 /148 R

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ACDA/IR:CCFLOWERREE
PM/DCA:HPHELPS
S/P:THIRSCHFELD
ACDA/NTB:RROCHLIN
ACDA/NTB:REINHORN -JCS:CWILMOT
ACDA/GC:MMAZEAU-L/PM:JROHWER
ERDA/ISA:RDUFF-ACDA/NTB:RMIKULAK
OSD/ISA:RSQUIRE-EUR/SOV:JGLASSMAN
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
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SUBJECT: PREPARED TEXT FOR CONCLUDING CCD PLENARY
STATEMENT, APRIL 28, 1977

1. THE FOLLOWING CLEARED TEXT HAS BEEN PREPARED FOR DELIVERY
IN CCD PLENARY ON THURSDAY, APRIL 28.

BEGIN TEXT.

A. THIS SPRING'S SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE COMMITTEE ON DISARMAMENT HAS BEEN MARKED BY SUSTAINED AND SERIOUS EXAMINATION OF A NUMBER OF TOPICS, WITH THE PROSPECTS FOR FUTURE PROGRESS THE MOST PROMISING AND REALISTIC IN YEARS. THIS SPRING WE HAVE MADE IMPORTANT STRIDES IN SETTING THE STAGE FOR FUTURE NEGOTIATIONS ON A COMPREHENSIVE TEST BAN AND ON CHEMICAL WEAPONS, MATTERS WHICH ARE CENTRAL TO MEANINGFUL MULTILATERAL ARMS CONTROL. OUR DISCUSSIONS HAVE ALSO INCLUDED PROGRESS ON FORMULATING PROCEDURES TO CONDUCT OUR WORK MORE EFFICIENTLY AND MORE PRODUCTIVELY, AND WE HAVE HAD A USEFUL EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON THE QUESTION OF A COMPREHENSIVE PROGRAM.

B. THE EARLY CONCLUSION OF A COMPREHENSIVE TEST BAN IS A PRIMARY ARMS CONTROL OBJECTIVE OF THE US GOVERNMENT. AS I STATED IN OUR INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS LAST WEEK, WE BELIEVE

THAT AN ADEQUATELY VERIFIED COMPREHENSIVE TEST BAN TREATY WOULD MAKE A SUBSTANTIAL CONTRIBUTION TOWARD ENDING THE NUCLEAR ARMS RACE, AND WOULD BE AN IMPORTANT ELEMENT IN OUR COMMON AND DETERMINED EFFORT TO AVERT THE PROLIFERATION OF NUCLEAR EXPLOSIVE CAPABILITIES. THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES HAS MADE CLEAR HIS INTENTION TO SEEK AN END TO NUCLEAR TESTING, AND WE HOPE TO ACHIEVE THIS GOAL AS RAPIDLY AS POSSIBLE. WE HAVE PLANS TO BEGIN DISCUSSIONS WITH THE SOVIET UNION IN ORDER TO LAY THE GROUNDWORK FOR MULTILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS. IN THIS REGARD WE ARE PLEASED BY THE

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PARTICIPATION OF ADDITIONAL COUNTRIES IN THE WORK OF THE AD HOC GROUP OF SEISMIC EXPERTS, AND BY ITS PROGRESS THUS FAR. WE HOPE THAT THE EXPERTS' GROUP CAN COMPLETE ITS TASK DURING THE SUMMER SESSION, SO THAT A REPORT OF ITS ACHIEVEMENTS CAN BE AVAILABLE FOR INCLUSION IN THE COMMITTEE'S REPORT TO THE 32ND UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

C. THE SESSION HAS ALSO SEEN SOME FURTHER PROGRESS TOWARD THE LONG-SOUGHT GOAL OF A CONVENTION BANNING CHEMICAL WEAPONS. A NUMBER OF DELEGATIONS HAVE PROVIDED COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS ON THE VERY CONSTRUCTIVE AND USEFUL DRAFT CONVENTION SUBMITTED IN 1976 BY THE UK DELEGATION. MY DELEGATION SUGGESTED THAT A CW CONVENTION COULD USEFULLY PROHIBIT TRAINING AND RELATED PREPARATIONS FOR USE OF CW. THESE AND OTHER CONFIDENCE-BUILDING MEASURES COULD CONTRIBUTE TO AN EFFECTIVE CW BAN. IN ADDITION, WE OFFERED SUGGESTIONS INTENDED TO INSURE THAT ANY CW CONVENTION WILL SUPPLEMENT BUT NOT WEAKEN THE GENEVA PROTOCOL, THAT IT WILL BE UNAMBIGUOUS AND COMPREHENSIVE

IN BANNING LETHAL AND INCAPACITATING AGENTS, AND THAT IT WILL CONTAIN ADEQUATE MEANS FOR ENSURING COMPLIANCE.

D. DURING THE SPRING SESSION THE US AND USSR ALSO HELD FURTHER BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS IN GENEVA, IN ORDER TO CONSIDER A JOINT INITIATIVE WITH RESPECT TO A CW CONVENTION. BOTH SIDES CONSIDERED THESE DISCUSSIONS USEFUL AND AGREED TO CONTINUE THEM.

E. MY GOVERNMENT'S POSITION ON THE QUESTION OF NEW WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION WAS AGAIN PUT FORWARD IN THE USEFUL INFORMAL MEETINGS OF EXPERTS ON THIS SUBJECT DURING THE SPRING SESSION. WE HAVE ENCOURAGED ACCEPTANCE OF THE 1948 UN DEFINITION OF MASS DESTRUCTION WEAPONS IN ORDER TO IMPOSE A COMPARABILITY STANDARD ON FUTURE DISCUSSIONS, AND AS A BASIS FOR IDENTIFYING NEW CANDIDATE WEAPON TYPES AS "MASS DESTRUCTION" WEAPONS. WE BELIEVE UNCLASSIFIED

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PROGRESS WAS MADE DURING THOSE MEETINGS IN ACHIEVING A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF THE COMPLEX ISSUES PRESENTED

BY THE QUESTION OF BANNING NEW WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION.

F. IN RELATION TO A COMPREHENSIVE PROGRAM OF ARMS CONTROL AND DISARMAMENT NEGOTIATIONS THE COMMITTEE'S WORK HAS BEEN INSTRUCTIVE, BUT IT HAS SHOWN THAT THERE ARE ALMOST AS MANY VIEWS ON THIS SUBJECT AS THERE HAVE BEEN SPEAKERS. IT IS THE OPINION OF MY GOVERNMENT THAT OUR APPROACH TO DISARMAMENT QUESTIONS MUST ABOVE ALL BE FLEXIBLE, ENABLING THE COMMITTEE TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF CHANGING CIRCUMSTANCES AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR PROGRESS, RATHER THAN COMPELLING IT TO ADHERE TO RIGID AND STATIC GUIDELINES EVOLVED UNDER PREVIOUS CONDITIONS. AS PARTICIPANTS IN THIS PROCESS WE PROBABLY MUST LEARN TO SHEATH OUR SWORDS, REACHING SPECIFIC AGREEMENTS WITH LIMITED OBJECTIVES, BEFORE WE CAN ASPIRE TO TURN THEM INTO PLOWSHARES.

G. IN REGARD TO ITS OWN PROCEDURES, THE COMMITTEE FORMULATED A USEFUL AND CONSTRUCTIVE SET OF PRINCIPLES FOR CREATING AD HOC WORKING GROUPS TO CONDUCT NEGOTIATIONS WHEN A PROPER FOUNDATION HAS BEEN LAID, AND ADOPTED ON A PERMANENT BASIS ITS 1976 INNOVATIONS RELATING TO PLENARY COMMUNIQUE AND THE PREPARATION OF THE ANNUAL REPORT. FURTHER, THE COMMITTEE PROVIDED FOR PROGRESSIVE AND PERIODIC DISTRIBUTION OF ITS DOCUMENTS TO NEW YORK MISSIONS OF UN MEMBERS, WHICH WILL ENABLE COUNTRIES THAT ARE NOT MEMBERS OF THE CCD TO MONITOR OUR DELIBERATIONS MORE CLOSELY.

H. IN CLOSING, ALLOW ME ONCE AGAIN TO EXPRESS MY
PERSONAL PLEASURE AT SERVING HERE WITH YOU. I ESPECIALLY
WISH TO EXPRESS MY APPRECIATION TO MY FELLOW CO-CHAIRMAN,
AMBASSADOR LIKHATCHEV, WHOSE COURTESY AND COOPERATION HAVE
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PROVED INVALUABLE TO ME. I AM CONFIDENT THAT THE
CONSTRUCTIVE AND FORWARD-LOOKING SPIRIT WHICH HAS
CHARACTERIZED ALL CCD DELEGATIONS THIS SPRING WILL CARRY
OVER INTO OUR NEXT SESSION, AND WILL ENABLE US TO BUILD
ON THE PROGRESS WE HAVE MADE. END TEXT.
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